

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 258978

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DRAFTED BY EUR:RDVINE:SLU

APPROVED BY EUR:RDVINE

NSC - MR. CLIFT (SUB)

EUR - MR. HARTMAN

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EUR/NE - MISS PINKNEY

S/S:CABORG

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P 010023Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 258978

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OTRA, SV, NO, PFOR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY  
ON THE ARTIC

REF: OSLO 4836, 4781

FOR AMBASSADOR BYRNE FROM VINE

1. OUR THINKING ABOUT CONSULTATIONS WITH NORWEGIANS ON PROBLEMS IN THE NORTHERN WATERS HAS BEEN BASED ON THREE CONSIDERATIONS. FIRST, TO BE RESPONSIVE TO NORWEGIAN DESIRES, AS EXPRESSED BY FRYDENLUND TO THE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY, TO CONSULT WITH THEM ABOUT THE ISSUES INVOLVED. SECOND, TO BENEFIT FROM NORWEGIAN THINKING AS AN INPUT TO THE US INTERAGENCY STUDY OF THE ISSUES BEFORE WE MAKE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS. THIRD, WE WOULD WISH TO INFLUENCE THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES BEFORE THEY ARE SET IN CONCRETE, INCLUDING THE POSITION  
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PAGE 02 STATE 258978

THEY MIGHT TAKE IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS

ON CONTINENTAL SHELF DELIMITATION IN THE BARENTS SEA.

2. WHILE THE NOVEMBER DATE ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED BY VIBE HERE IN WASHINGTON WOULD HAVE BEEN BEST FROM THE STANDPOINT OF ALL THREE OF THESE FACTORS, WE UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR NORWEGIAN DEFERRAL. OF THE ALTERNATIVE DATES, THE DECEMBER 18-20 DATE IS CLEARLY PREFERABLE TO THE DATES IN JANUARY AND WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER 18-20 DATES PROPOSED. WHILE THE PRESENT DEADLINE FOR THE CONCLUSION OF OUR INTERAGENCY STUDY IS PRIOR TO THAT DATE, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND DEFERRAL OF POLICY DECISIONS PENDING THE RESULTS OF THOSE TALKS.

3. YOU MAY INFORM FRYDENLUND AND VIBE THAT THE 18-20 DECEMBER DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE AND EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THEM FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE US SO CLOSE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT YOU TREAT THE TIMING AND FACT OF OUR STUDY AS NOFORN NOT ONLY WITH THE NORWEGIANS BUT OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES.

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## Message Attributes

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